



Grants Available for Brownfields-Related Training, Research, and Technical Assistance

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently released proposal guidelines to assist eligible entities apply for brownfields-related training, research, and technical assistance grants and cooperative agreements. **The deadline for applications is April 14, 2003**

The need for training, research, and technical assistance of increasing depth and breadth has expanded as the brownfields program has grown. Projects addressing various topics and reaching various stakeholders will allow for sound decision-making and will help cleanup and revitalize brownfields properties. As brownfields issues affect many different stakeholders, EPA anticipates a variety of organizations, representing a variety of non-federal constituents will have an interest in brownfields-related issues and will want to conduct relevant training, research and technical assistance for the benefit of its constituents.

EPA's brownfields program thrives on four basic goals and principles – protecting the environment, partnering for success, stimulating the marketplace, and promoting sustainable reuse. As the federal leader of the national Brownfields Program, EPA is committed to supporting training, research and technical assistance that will further the goals of the program and provide enhanced knowledge, tools, and processes to the broad range of non-federal brownfields stakeholders (e.g., state, local and other non-governmental entities).

EPA anticipates awarding both grants and cooperative agreements under this request for RFA. Cooperative agreements provide for substantial involvement on the part of the federal government. By awarding a cooperative agreement, EPA anticipates substantial involvement in your training, research or technical assistance activities. EPA may collaborate with cooperative agreement recipients through routinely scheduled conference calls, as well as ad-hoc e-mails, faxes, site visits, and any other necessary communications. Funding for financial assistance under CERCLA 104(k)(6) is limited, by statute, to no more than 15 percent of the amount available for CERCLA 104(k) grants. EPA estimates that \$2 Million will be available to make up to ten assistance agreement awards, contingent upon the availability of funds.

The guidelines provide eligible applicants an opportunity to apply for federal funding for brownfields-related training, research or technical assistance. Eligibility is limited to governmental applicants and non-profit organizations. Public and private universities are eligible as well. Groups of two or more eligible applicants may choose to form a coalition and submit a single application for these assistance agreements. Intertribal consortia, except consortia comprised on ineligible Alaska tribes, are eligible to apply as well. For profit organizations are not eligible.

Please note that applications that are sent via United States Postal Service may not arrive at EPA for several weeks due to the screening and irradiation process necessary for security purposes.

EPA will hold a pre-application open meeting on Friday, March 14th from 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM in EPA's East Building, Room 1117A, 12th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC to answer questions. In addition, potential applicants may submit written requests for clarifications to Beth Zelenski. Clarifications will also be posted on EPA's Web site.

For more information on the proposal guidelines, including definitions of training, research, and technical assistance, specific eligibility and funding requirements, and descriptions of the subject areas for which EPA is interested in supporting projects for the benefit of brownfields stakeholders, visit http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/html-doc/pg0203_0.htm.